

1 CLAIMS

2 1. A method comprising:
3 assigning a plurality of devices to a group;
4 assigning at least one event-handling policy to the group, wherein the
5 assigned policy is associated with each of the plurality of devices in the group; and
6 evaluating a current state of each device before the assigned policy is
7 applied to the device.

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9 2. A method as recited in claim 1 wherein evaluating a current state of
10 each device determines whether each device is currently a member of the group.

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12 3. A method as recited in claim 1 wherein evaluating a current state of
13 each device includes:

14 determining whether a particular device is currently a member of the group;
15 and

16 applying the assigned policy to the particular device if the particular device
17 is currently a member of the group.

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19 4. A method as recited in claim 1 wherein each device is assigned at
20 least one additional policy that is not assigned to the group.

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22 5. A method as recited in claim 1 wherein a particular device is assigned
23 to multiple groups.
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1 6. A method as recited in claim 1 wherein the event-handling policy
2 defines how the device is configured.

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4 7. A method as recited in claim 1 wherein the event-handling policy
5 identifies the types of events that are provided to each device.

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7 8. A method as recited in claim 1 wherein the method is implemented
8 by a management module.

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10 9. One or more computer-readable memories containing a computer
11 program that is executable by a processor to perform the method recited in claim
12 1.

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14 10. An apparatus comprising:
15 a group of devices having an associated event-handling policy;
16 an event log configured to store event data; and
17 a management module coupled to the group of devices and the event log,
18 wherein a current state of each device in the group of devices is evaluated by the
19 management module before the event-handling policy is applied to the device.

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21 11. An apparatus as recited in claim 10 wherein a plurality of groups of
22 devices are coupled to the management module.

1 **12.** An apparatus as recited in claim 10 wherein each device in the
2 group of devices is assigned at least one policy that is not assigned to the group.

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4 **13.** An apparatus as recited in claim 10 wherein the event-handling
5 policy defines how the devices are configured.

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7 **14.** An apparatus as recited in claim 10 wherein the event-handling
8 policy identifies the types of events that are provided to each device.

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10 **15.** An apparatus as recited in claim 10 wherein the apparatus is part of
11 an enterprise computing system.

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13 **16.** An apparatus as recited in claim 10 wherein the management
14 module receives event data generated by a plurality of event providers.

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16 **17.** An apparatus as recited in claim 10 wherein the management
17 module determines whether a particular device is currently a member of the group
18 before the event-handling policy is applied to the device.

1 **18.** One or more computer-readable media having stored thereon a
2 computer program that, when executed by one or more processors, performs the
3 process of:

4 assigning a plurality of devices to a group;
5 identifying an event-handling policy associated with the group of devices;
6 assigning the event-handling policy to the group of devices; and
7 evaluating a current state of each device before the assigned event-handling
8 policy is applied to the device.

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10 **19.** One or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 18
11 wherein a particular device is assigned to multiple groups of devices.

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13 **20.** One or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 18
14 wherein the event-handling policy defines the type of event data that is provided to
15 each device.
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